

ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1939.REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Royston Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I regret the delay in submitting my report for the year 1939. Circumstances over which I have no control have made it impossible to compile correct statistics. I have now received the necessary information and have pleasure in giving you an account of the work carried out by your Sanitary Authority.

The general health of the township during the year has been good. There have not been any epidemics of importance but there have been sporadic cases of infectious disease scattered over the whole district. Better housing and the reduction of the overcrowding have contributed to the prevention of infection spreading.

During the year and particularly during the last few months Civil Defence occupied almost the whole time of the various health services and an enormous amount of work was done to protect the civil population. A mobile First Aid Unit was allocated to your township and a wonderful response was made to the appeal for volunteers. Training of these went on intensively, and this quickly resulted in an efficient organisation ready to cope with any casualties which might occur in your area.

An Auxiliary Fire Service is under the direction and is now part of the Sanitary Service. Frequent exercises have been carried out and the co-operation of the volunteer personnel has produced great efficiency.

Industrial conditions in the area improved during the late part of the year. This improvement was essentially due to the increased amount of coal and coal products required for war service and as a result unemployment figures dropped considerably.

The Child Welfare Clinic has carried out a good work, and the Ante-Natal Clinic has had an increased number of patients attending for examination and advice.

The District Nursing Service is most efficient, and the work entailed is almost too much for one nurse. In the list of statistics, I am showing the number of cases treated and the visits made.

Voluntary Hospitals used are the General Infirmary, the Women's Hospital at Leeds, and the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley.

Infectious diseases are treated at the Kendray Isolation Hospital. There is, however, a tendency to treat Scarlet Fever cases where they can be properly isolated at home.

The diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis is almost entirely in the hands of the various Tuberculosis Officers of the County Council.

An efficient ambulance service for residents of the township is maintained partly by grants from your Council and partly by a voluntary committee.

The Urban District covers an area of 1,452 acres. The Rateable Value of the Township at the end of the year was £24,515, and the sum represented by a ld. rate is £92. The number of Inhabited Houses at the end of the year, according to the Rate Books, was 2,061, showing an increase over the previous year of 50.

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Live Births. (Legitimate)	126.	74.	52.
(Illegitimate)	<u>7.</u>	<u>5.</u>	<u>4.</u>
<u>Total.</u>	<u>133.</u>	<u>77.</u>	<u>56.</u>
Still-Births. (Legitimate)	7.	3.	4.
Deaths.	87.	54.	33.
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population.		17.17.	
Still-Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still)		50.00	
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population.		11.25	

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :

No. 30 - Other Puerperal Causes : 1.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total.	6.	2.
Legitimate.	6.	1.
Illegitimate.	0.	1.
All infants per 1,00 live Births.		60.15.
Legitimate Infants per 1000 live Births.		55.55.
Illegitimate " " " " "		142.85.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		6
" " Measles (all ages)		0
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)		0
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		0

Causes of Death 1939.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Other Liver Diseases.	2.	1.	1.
Other Puerperal Diseases.	1.	0.	1.
Premature Birth.	4.	3.	1.
Senility.	2.	2.	0.
Suicide.	1.	1.	0.
Other violences.	4.	2.	2.
Other Defined Diseases.	9.	6.	3.
Diabetes.	5.	2.	1.
Cerebral Haemorrhage.	3.	1.	2.
Heart Disease.	31.	18.	13.
Aneurysm.	1.	1.	0.
Other Circulation Diseases.	1.	0.	1.
Bronchitis.	2.	2.	0.
Pneumonia.	6.	4.	2.
Other Respiratory Diseases.	1.	0.	1.
Peptic Ulcer.	1.	1.	0.

Causes of Death. (Continued).

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Apendicitis.	1.	1.	0.
Influenza.	1.	1.	0.
Encephlethargica.	1.	1.	0.
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	5.	3.	2.
Other Tuberculosis.	1.	0.	1.
Cancer.	6.	4.	2.
<u>Total.</u>	<u>87.</u>	<u>54.</u>	<u>33.</u>

Although Heart Disease has the largest number of causes of death this is due to the fact that it is chiefly in old people that this has occurred.

Table showing Death Rate, Birth Rate, and Infantile Mortality Rate 1000 Estimated Population for Royston for the last 5 years.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Death Rate.</u>	<u>Birth Rate.</u>	<u>Infantile Mortality Rate.</u>
1935.	8.9.	18.4.	56.3.
1936.	9.2	18.7.	40.3.
1937.	9.92.	18.04.	21.43.
1938.	11.78.	21.36.	54.54.
1939.	11.25	17.17.	60.15.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

1. Smallpox.

Nil.

2. Scarlet Fever.

1 case was notified, as compared with 3 cases in 1938.

3. Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

There was one notification of this disease.

4. Puerperal Pyrexia.

There was 1 case of Puerperal Pyrexia.

5. Diphtheria.

There were 6 notifications of Diphtheria, which is the same as the year 1938.

6. Disinfection.

Disinfection was carried out at all houses where infectious disease occurred, and the total number of houses so treated is 7. Contacts were also kept under observation and all possible steps taken to minimise the spread of infectious disease.

The following Table shows the number of cases of Disease notified during the last 5 years :-

	<u>Smallpox.</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever.</u>	<u>Diphtheria.</u>	<u>Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1935.	0.	28.	9.	0.	37.
1936.	0.	10.	12.	1.	23.
1937.	0.	22.	12.	0.	34.
1938.	0.	13.	6.	0.	19.
1939.	0.	1.	6.	1.	8.

7. Tuberculosis.

The following Table shows particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1939 :-

Age Period	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1.								
1-5.								
5-15.								
15-25.			2.	1.		1.		
25-35.		1.				1.		
35-45.	1.	1.	1.		2.	1.		
45-55.								
55-65.								
65 and upwards								
<u>Totals</u>	1.	2.	3.	1.	2.	3.		

Tuberculosis patients in list at end of 1939 :-

Pulmonary

7 males. 9 females.

Non-Pulmonary.

4 males. 3 females.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of or mortality from Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the area.

District Nursing Service.

No. of visits paid during the year - 4,976.

No. of patients treated. - 219.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. B. PARE, M.B., Ch.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.

ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR
1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Royston Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Second Annual Report on the work of this department, being for the year ended 31st December, 1939, and prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 1961.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

(a) Water Supply.

The Township received its water supply in bulk from the County Borough of Barnsley, being served by the U. D. C. mains from a reservoir at Smithies Hill. The supply throughout the year was satisfactory both as to quality and quantity.

The total consumption during the year in Royston (exclusive of the amount supplied to the Wakefield Rural District Council) was 42,290,000 gallons, which represents an average daily consumption of 14.94 gallons per head.

The following Table shows the consumption figures for the past five years :-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Total Annual Consumption.</u>	<u>Average Daily Consumption per head of population.</u>
1939.	42,290,000 gallons.	14.94 gallons.
1938.	40,257,000. " .	14.21. "
1937.	39,409,000. " .	13.92. "
1936.	37,029,000. " .	13.05. "
1935.	34,454,000 " .	12.17. "

Several minor extensions were made to the water mains on account of building development.

(b) Drainage and Sewerage.

No major alterations or extensions to the sewerage system took place.

(c) Rivers and Streams.

No pollution of rivers or streams in the area was detected during the year.

(d) Closet Accomodation.

Particulars of the various types of sanitary convenience in the district at the end of 1939 are as follows:-

<u>Type.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Last year's Figure.</u>
Water Closets.	1,838.	1,756.
Waste Water Closets.	0.	0.
Pail Closets.	0.	0.
Privies.	141.	175.

(e) Public Cleansing.

The collection and disposal of house and trade refuse is carried out by the following transport under my control :-

- 1 2-ton Bedford Motor Vehicle.
- 1 Driver.
- 2 Loaders.
- 1 Controlled Tip Attendant.
- Extra assistance on 36 days by 1 Horse and Cart and Driver.
- 2 Extra Loaders on 156 days each.

The motor vehicle has a capacity of seven cubic yards, and is fitted with dust proof sliding metal covers.

Collection is made from the following receptacles :-

		<u>Last Year's</u> <u>Figures.</u>
Dustbins.	1859.	1705.
Dry Ashpits.	0.	36.
Privy Middens.	83.	102.

(f) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

(1) Number and Nature of Inspections.

During the year the following visits and inspections were made :

<u>Nature of Inspection.</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Visits Paid.</u>
Bakehouses.	4.
Cinemas and Music Halls.	7.
Cowsheds and Dairies.	6.
Factories and Workshops.	12.
Housing and Slum Clearance.	50.
Ice Cream.	1.
Infectious Diseases.	9.
Keeping of Animals.	2.
Markets.	3.
Meat Shops and Stores.	12.
Miscellaneous (under Public Health Acts)	80.
Petroleum Acts.	5.
Public Cleansing.	20.
Rats and Mice Destruction Act.	8.
Refuse Disposal.	50.
Schools.	7.
Shop Acts.	2.
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection.	351.
Swimming Baths and Welfare Park.	3.
T. B. Shelters.	1.
Verminous Premises.	34.
Waterworks Clauses Acts.	343.
Work in progress.	35.
Interviews.	35.
<u>Total.</u>	<u>1,080.</u>

(2) Record of Nuisances abated and work done.

Brickwork or Stonework repaired.	2.
Roofs made water-tight.	3.
Spoutings repaired.	2.
Rain Water Pipes repaired or renewed	3.
Damp Walls remedied.	6.
Flashings repaired.	1.
Doors repaired or renewed.	4.
Windows repaired or renewed.	3.
Floors repaired.	7.
Plaster repaired.	5.
Staircases repaired.	2.
Fireplaces repaired.	2.
Ovens repaired or renewed.	1.
Coppers renewed.	3.
Chimney Flues repaired.	3.
New Sinks (complete) provided.	6.
New Sink Waste only provided.	2.
Taps repaired.	280.
Taps renewed.	7.
Outbuildings repaired.	2.
Water Service Pipes repaired.	60.
Water Closets repaired.	6.
Flusing Cisterns repaired or renewed.	2.
Choked Drains cleansed.	28.
Defects in Drains remedied.	2.
New Dustbins provided.	112.
Verminous Houses cleansed.	10.
	—
<u>Total.</u>	<u>566.</u>

(g) Shops.

2 Inspections were made during the year under the provisions Shops Act, 1934. No contraventions of the Act were observed.

(h) Smoke Abatement.

No nuisance from Smoke was observed during the year.

(i) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

1. Houses Treated.

No. of Council Houses found to be infested.	4.
No. disinfected.	4.
Other houses found to be infested.	6.
No. disinfected.	6.

31 families were removed from houses condemned for demolition. Thier furniture was treated by the H.C.N. Van Process of Fumigation, and all bedding treated by Steam Disinfection. This work was carried satisfactorily by the Yorkshire Fumigation Services Ltd.

Meat Inspection.

Regular visits were paid throughout the year to slaughterhouses, shops, stalls, and vehicles, and places where food is prepared, for the purpose of inspection of the premises and meat and other food in course of preparation or exposed for sale.

Following the receipt of 612 notices of slaughter under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, 351 visits were paid to slaughterhouses, and the following animals were inspected :-

-6-

Cows.	68.	
Calves.	7.	
Beasts.	224.	
Sheep.	500.	
Pigs.	# 567.	<u>Total 1,366.</u>

Including 2 slaughtered on cottage premises.

I found it necessary to condemn the following carcasses and organs :-

Tuberculosis - Generalised.

1 Bullock and all organs.
1 Heifer and all organs.
1 Pig and all organs.

Tuberculosis - Localised.

Cows. 21 sets of Lungs.
4 Mesentery.
3 Heads and tongues.

Heifers. 4 sets of lungs.
1 Liver.
1 Mesentery.
1 Head and tongue .

Pigs. 12 heads and tongues.

Other diseases.

Abscesses. 1 Cow's liver.
2 Bullock's liver.

Cirrohsis. 1 Cow's liver.
2 Heifers' livers.
1 Sheep's liver.

Actinomycosis. 1 Heifer's head and tongue.

Factories and Workshops Acts.

There were 4 notices served and 12 Inspections made during the year 1939.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE HEPWORTH.

Sanitary Inspector.
Cleansing Superintendent,
and Waterworks Manager.

TABLE C.

..... ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL Sanitary District.

YEAR 1939.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1939 for Nuisances only ..343..... (Not including Housing Inspections)
 Nuisances found in 1939568.....)
 Nuisances in hand, end of 1938 17.....)
 Total needing abatement585.....
 Abated during 1939561.....
 Outstanding end of 193924.....

Notices served, Informal82.....
 " " Statutory ...143.....
 Complied with82.....
 " "119.....

Total number of Summonses or other legal proceedingsNil.....

Regulated Buildings, Trades, etc.	No. in District	No. on Register	Total No. of Inspections made.	General Conditions.	Legal Proceedings (if any)	Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades?
Common Lodging Houses
Houses Let in Lodgings
Canal Boats
Knackers' Yards
Tents, Vans and Sheds
Offensive Trades (Please specify kind)

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Particulars of any sewer extensions during 1939 Small extensions for housing development.....
 Details of any portion of district still requiring:-
 (a) Sewering Summer Lane and Lee Lane..... (b) Improvement of defective sewers ...Nil.....
 No. of houses not connected to sewers 16.....
 Sewage Disposal Works.....

Particulars of any extensions made during 1939Nil.....
 Any inadequacy of sewage disposal works? ..Unsatisfactory at Guisley and Summer Lane.....
 Any complaint from West Riding Rivers Board?.....No.....

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. of Privies with open middensNil.....
 " " with covered middens ...141.....
 " " reconstructed during 1939 - (a) as w.c's ...34.....
 Closets, other than Privies, reconstructed during 1939 as w.c'sNil.....
 additional Closets provided for old property in 1939 as (a) w.c'sNil.....
 Closets constructed in 1939 for new houses (a) w.c's24.....
 Any special action being taken by Council to secure conversion of privies, waste-water closets and pails to w.c. system.
 If so, what?The converting of Privies to Water Closets is proceeding very satisfactory.....

SCAVENGING.

Is public scavenging in operation throughout the whole district?Yes.....
 If not, is it in operation in any part of the area? If so, please specify part or parts
 How is refuse disposed of?
 1. Destruction%
 2. Tipping100.....%
 3. Farmers%
 If tipping is in operation, is it on the controlled system?Yes.....
 Total annual cost of collection and disposal of refuse £.936.-0.-0
 Particulars of any extension or improvement in the service during the year Purchase of new Bedford lorry to carry 7 cu. yds.

WATER SUPPLY.

Source of supply Supplied in bulk from Barnsley..... By whom distributed ...Royston U.D.C.....
 No. of dwelling houses on public supply 2,074.. Any extension of supply during the year? ..Small extensions to new property.....
 Has supply been satisfactory?Yes..... (a) In qualityYes..... (b) In quantityYes.....
 No. of examinations made during the year (a) chemical ...1.... Result ...Good..... (b) bacteriological Nil.. Result Satisfactory
 Have any supplies been restricted or closed, if so, where?No.....

MILK SUPPLY.

No. of Milk samples taken by officers of local authority for analysis under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1926, and Food and Drugs Act, 1938five.....
 No. found adulteratedNil... No. of Prosecutions ...Nil.....
 No. of samples of ordinary milk taken by officers of local authority for:- (a) Methylene blue test ...Nil.....
 Any special examination of milk for dirt, e.g., sedimentation test?Nil.....
 Any instance of disease attributed to milk during 1939Nil.....
 No. of cowkeepers in district ...4.. No. registered ...4.. Total No. of cowsheds ...4..... Total No. of milk cows ...30.....
 Total No. of cowsheds inspected during the year ...4.. Total No. of cowshed inspections ...0.....
 No. of wholesale traders registered Nil No. of retail milk sellers registered ...0.. Have any retailers been removed from the register? ...No.....
 Observations as to structural conditions, cleanliness and methods of production and handling of milkSatisfactory.....

MILK SUPPLY (Cont'd).

Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936 and 1938.

	No. Licences in force in area for:-	Samples of designated milks examined bacteriologically:-			(d) No. of Licences in force for bottling "Tuberculin Tested" or "Accredited" milk, other than at place of production
		No. satis- factory.	No. unsatis- factory.	Total.	
(a) Production of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	Nil
(b) " " "Accredited" Milk	Nil
(c) In respect of Pasteurising plants	Nil

MEAT INSPECTION.

Any public abattoir in district? No

Total No. of private slaughterhouses ..4..... made up of ...1..... registered and9..... licensed.

No. unsatisfactory either as regards structure, position or in other respects Nil

No. of times each slaughterhouse inspected every time of slaughter Total inspections351.....

No. of seizures of unsound food Nil Total weight Nil No. of Prosecutions Nil

PUBLIC HEALTH (HEAT REGULATIONS, 1924).

Heat Marking: Is scheme in force under above? No If so, give particulars of action under same

OTHER FOODS.

No. of samples (other than milk) taken by officers of L.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Nil

No. found adulterated Nil No. of Prosecutions Nil

No. of Bakehouses in district 5... Total inspections 7...

Are any of bakehouses underground, if so, how many? No

SCHOOLS. Statutory Medical Inspection is carried out by the County Education Authority in most of the Districts, but that does not relieve the M.O.H. of his duties in regard to sanitation and the prevention of infectious outbreaks in connection with Schools.

No. of Schools in District 5. No. visited by M.O.H. 5

Action taken Disinfected

Schools closed by M.O.H. Nil

General Sanitary Conditions Satisfactory

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No. of smoke observations each of 30 minutes duration taken during 1939 Nil

No. of above showing excessive emission of black smoke Nil

No. of cautions issued Nil

No. of statutory notices issued Nil

No. of prosecutions Nil

SHOPS ACT, 1934, Sections 10 and 13 (3).

No. of visits paid under the above Act during 1939 2

Unsatisfactory conditions found Nil Remedied Nil

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, etc. No. in District None

Is this class of dwelling showing signs of increase? No

Have Council made byelaws under Section 268(4), Public Health Act, 1936? No

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Are there in the district:-

Any public swimming baths or pools? One... Any privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public? No

If so, give brief particulars of each and state what action is taken to ensure satisfactory condition of the water.

..... The Open Air Bathing Pool in the Park, closed

Any samples of bath waters examined in 1939, apart from those submitted to the County Bacteriological Laboratory?

If so, please give particulars No

BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS in force in District.

Please give list of Byelaws and Regulations in force and date of adoption in each case

Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, 1925.

Scavenging 1925, Slaughter Houses 1934, Cemeteries 1923.

Prevention of Nuisance 1875 - 1925, New Streets and Buildings 1925.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diseases specially prevalent in 1939 Whooping cough

State months Summer months

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list? Nil

Any influences threatening the health of the District? No.

MORTUARIES. What accommodation

(a) for accidents One

(b) for infectious cases other than at hospital Nil

(c) for other cases Nil

(d) for post mortem examinations One

Any suggestions by M.O.H. Nil

SANITARY STAFF:

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H? £50

Name of Sanitary Inspector.	Annual salary as Sanitary Inspector.	Other appointments held.	Salary for such other appointments.
Geo. Hepworth	181	Water Manager and Fire Brigade Officer	69

Any Assistants? No Is Staff sufficient? No

Does M.O.H. receive copies of Memos. and Circulars distributed by Ministry of Health? Yes

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS ON ANY SUBJECTS (Please attach copy).

SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS as to Sanitary requirements of District, suggestions of M.O.H., and extended notes on any of the foregoing entries. Any suggestions as to need for County Clinics or Dispensaries, or as to existing Clinics or Dispensaries.